

Pleasant Ewell

Pleasant Ewell was the first Ewell to become a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He was born on August 2, 1788 in Albemarle County, Virginia. He was the son of Maxey and Ann Mullins Ewell. His father was a plantation owner and planter. Pleasant was the tenth of twelve children.

Pleasant married Barbara Fauber on January 27, 1814 in Augusta County, Virginia. She was the daughter of Christian and Barbara Ann Renic Fauber. Seven of the couple's children were born in Albemarle County, Virginia—Sarah, William Fletcher, Elizabeth Hill, Martin F., Thomas Maxey, Barbara Ann, and John Martin. From Virginia, the family moved to Bedford County, Tennessee where Mary Dabney was born in 1831.

In 1833, the Ewell family moved to Ray County, Missouri. Pleasant served as Justice of the Peace and two daughters, Pirene Brown and Ida Fauber were born. In 1837, the family joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. In 1839, they moved to Nauvoo. Barbara Ann Fauber Ewell died on June 28, 1839 in Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois. In addition, two daughters died, Sarah on June 1, 1839 and then Elizabeth in 1840.

Pleasant married Elizabeth Clapper Smith on March 16, 1843 in Nauvoo. She was the widow of Jacob P. Smith. Elizabeth and Jacob had eight children. After Pleasant was ordained a High Priest, he was called to serve a mission in Virginia. Evidently, Elizabeth did not leave Nauvoo with Pleasant. Her death occurred on February 19, 1883 in Hancock County, Illinois.

Pleasant left Nauvoo in April 1846. When he arrived at the Missouri River, Brigham Young was asking for volunteers for the Mormon Battalion. Two of Pleasant's sons signed up, William and John Martin. Both were assigned to Company E. William contracted tuberculosis while in the service and died after he made it back to Iowa. He may have been buried in Big Pigeon.

Pleasant married one more time in about 1847 to Mary Magdalena Wiekel Huff. This wedding probably took place in Big Pigeon. Mary was the widow of Henry Huff and had two children. The 1850 Census listed Pleasant in dwelling #1203, age 63; Mary, age 30; Susannah, age 8; Jeremiah, age 6 and, Martha, age 2. Susannah and Jeremiah were Mary's children and Martha was the daughter of Pleasant and Mary.

Early in 1851, Pleasant came to the Salt Lake Valley. He made it to the west but died on March 4, 1852 in Lehi, Utah County, Utah Territory.